

# United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Pacific Region Fruit & Nut Review



The Pacific Region Includes the States of CA, HI and NV

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## **APRIL CROP COMMENTS - CALIFORNIA**

Stone fruit trees finished blooming and fruit development continued. Early variety apricot, nectarine, and peach harvests were underway. Cherry growers sprayed for worms as harvest began for early varieties. Prune and plum trees continued to leaf out and set fruit. Fruit thinning remained active on stone fruit trees, while reflective foil was placed in orchards to increase fruit color. Grapes bloomed and leafed out; bunches were developing. Grape growers applied fungicides and fertilizers to vineyards. Kiwi vines continued to leaf out and

elongate shoots, and flower clusters were forming. Apple bloom continued while pear trees were leafing out. Pomegranate trees bloomed and developed fruit. Blueberry harvest and olive bloom began. Strawberry harvest progressed. Almond growers were fertilizing and irrigating orchards. Nuts continued to size on almond trees. Catkins continued to develop on walnut trees as bloom began. Early walnut varieties were developing nuts. Walnut growers began coddling moth sprays. Pistachio bloom was increasing as trees continued to leaf out.

Citrus tree bloom continued. Nets were placed over mandarin trees to prevent pollination from bees. Citrus trees were topped and skirted. Navel and Valencia orange harvests remained active. Mandarin and grapefruit harvests finished.

#### CALIFORNIA FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

CALIFORNIA FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE										
	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production			
Crop	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	Percent Change	2014 Forecast		
NUT CROPS	Acres		Pounds		1,000 Pounds					
Almonds (Shelled) 1/	840,000	860,000	2,380	2,270	2,000,000	1,950,000	-3	June 30, 2014		
Pecans								October 10, 2014		
Pistachio (In-Shell)										
Marketable In-Shell										
Shelling Stock										
Total								(NA)		
			Tons		1,000 Tons					
Walnuts (In-Shell)	255,000		1.94		495			September 4, 2014		
FRUIT CROPS										
Apples								August 12, 2014		
Apricots								July 11, 2014		
Cherries								June 26, 2014		
Grapes, Raisin	200,000		12.00		2,400			August 12, 2014		
Grapes, Table	95,000							August 12, 2014		
Grapes, Wine	525,000							August 12, 2014		
Grapes, All	820,000							August 12, 2014		
Olives					75.0			August 12, 2014		
Peaches, Clingstone 2/						320		August 12, 2014		
Peaches, Freestone						320		August 12, 2014		
Pears, Bartlett								August 12, 2014		
Pears, Other								August 12, 2014		
Plums, Dried (Prunes) 3/	51,000		2.06		105			June 2, 2014		
BERRIES			Cwt.		,					
Strawberries 4/	41,500		665		27,573			September 4, 2014		
CITRUS CROPS 5/	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14				
			Cartons		1,000 Cartons					
Grapefruit	9,900		909		9,000	8,000	-11	July 11, 2014		
Lemons	45,000		933		42,000	40,000	-5	July 11, 2014		
Oranges, Navel	136,000		625		85,000	84,000	-1	July 11, 2014		
Oranges, Valencia	39,000	37,000	615	649	24,000	24,000	(NC)	July 11, 2014		
Mandarins & Mandarin Hybrids 6/	38,000		684		26,000	26,400	2	July 11, 2014		

(Z) Less than one half of one percent.

(NC) No change.

- 1/ Almond Objective Measurement Report will be released June 30, 2014.
- 2/ Over-the-scale tonnage and includes culls and cannery diversions.
- 3/ Dried Plum Forecast will be released June 2, 2014.
- 4/ Includes fresh market and processing.
- 5/ All citrus fruit-- 40.0 lbs per carton.
- 6/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

### **U.S. CITRUS**

The United States all orange forecast for the 2013-2014 season is 7.21 million tons, up slightly from the previous forecast, but down 13 percent from the 2012-2013 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 110 million boxes, is up slightly from the previous forecast, but down 17 percent from last season's final utilization. Early, midseason, and Navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 53.3 million boxes up 1 percent from the previous forecast, but down 21 percent from last season. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 57.0 million boxes, is unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 14 percent from last season's final utilization. California and Texas production forecasts are carried forward from April. In the Florida citrus growing regions, high temperatures ranged from the lower to mid 80s. Widespread rainfall continued throughout April, keeping the citrus region drought-free and well supplied with water. The rainfall over the past several weeks has been beneficial. Some of the healthier and well-cared-for trees showed lots of new growth. Trees heavily affected by greening were thinning out or dying. Next season's crop was progressing well with reports of marble-sized or larger oranges. Hedging and topping was complete in most areas. Growers and caretakers were applying nutritional and post bloom sprays as well as fertilizing, irrigating, and in some cases, resetting new trees. Processing plants were primarily running only Valencia oranges until the end of the season. Several packinghouses have finished for the season with a few still taking small amounts of late oranges.

### **ALMOND PRODUCTION**

The subjective forecast for the 2014 California almond production is 1.95 billion pounds. This is 2.5 percent below last year's production of 2.00 billion pounds. Yield is expected to average 2,270 pounds per acre, down 4.6 percent from the 2013 yield of 2,380 pounds per acre. Forecasted bearing acreage for 2014 is 860,000. The subjective production forecast is based on a telephone survey conducted from April 15 to April 29 from a sample of almond growers.

After the warmest winter on record for California, the almond bloom began in early February. The 2014 bloom was one of the earliest almond blooms in memory. Orchards required irrigation in the winter months due to the lack of precipitation, but rain early in the season offered some temporary relief. Pest and disease pressure has been lower than last year. Overall, the 2014 crop is developing faster than last year and harvest is expected to start early. Water is a concern for many growers this year.